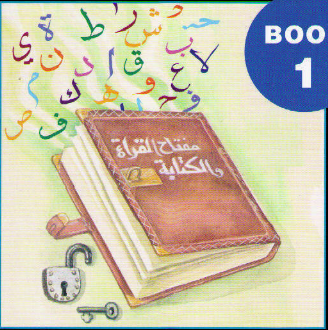
مِفْتَاحُ الْقِرَاءَةِ وَالْكِتَابَةِ



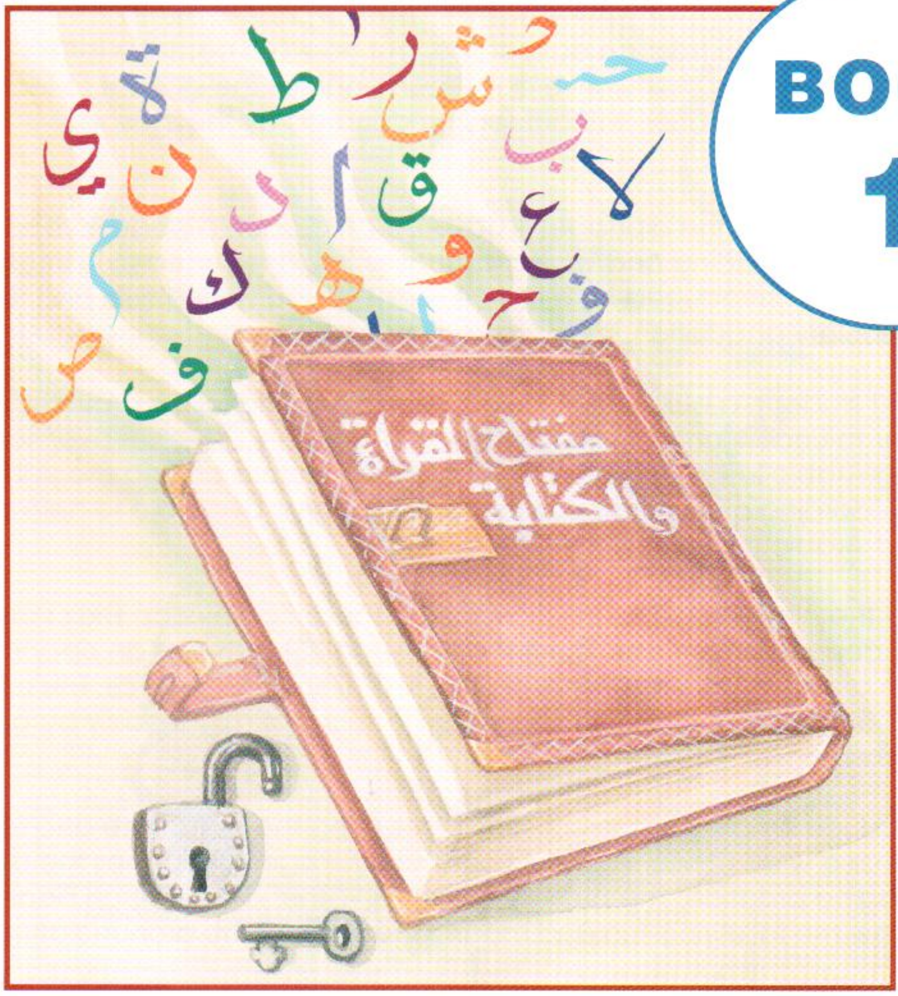
BOOK 1

THE KEY TO ARABIC

Fast Track to Reading and Writing Arabic

Dr. Imran Hamza Alawiye

مِفْتَاحُ الْقِرَاءَةِ وَالْكِتَابَةِ



BOOK 1

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Introduction and Notes for Teachers

'The Key to Arabic' teaches students the skills they need to read and write Arabic. The letters of the alphabet are introduced one at a time, and the student is given the opportunity to read each letter with the various possible combinations of long and short vowels, as well as the 'ay' and 'ow' dipthongs, sukoon and shadda. The use of colour coding in presenting the various vowel sounds helps the student to grasp them more quickly. Each letter is also shown in all its forms: initial, medial, final and isolate so that the student can learn to recognise the letter wherever it appears in the word, as well as how to write it. Clear arrowed diagrams show the student the correct pen direction when writing.

Arabic words are introduced from an early stage, but no word contains letters that the student has not already covered. This assimilative approach enables the student to learn the alphabet in a gradual yet thorough manner, without feeling daunted by the prospect of having to learn the entire alphabet at one go.

Each letter in the first half of the alphabet is covered on a double-page spread. As the student's confidence in reading and writing increases, this is reduced to a single page per letter, and exercises are introduced to reinforce reading and writing skills and to encourage some basic vocabulary acquisition.

For the self-taught student, a quick reference guide to reading skills is provided at the outset to enable him or her to understand the various vowel sounds and gain an overview of the method of joining Arabic letters together to form words, before putting the skill into practice. An optional CD recording of the materials in this workbook is available to help students in mastering correct Arabic pronunciation.

After completing the alphabet, students have the chance to develop their skills further through a set of carefully designed exercises. The first of these (p.55) provides an opportunity for reading and dictation practice, by presenting pairs of similar sounding words. This encourages the student to listen carefully and distinguish between letters that might easily be confused by the non-Arabic-speaker.

Pages 56–59 introduce simple non-verbal sentences using the masculine and feminine forms of "This is...", as well as a wide range of useful vocabulary. Page 60 teaches the alif al-maqsura, with plenty of reading practice. The primary use of 'al' ('the') is taught on pages 61–64, with an explanation of how the following sun and moon letters affect the pronunciation of this word.

Pages 65–68 employ passages of dialogue to teach the student simple useful expressions such as greetings, introducing oneself, asking someone their name and saying goodbye. These dialogues can form the basis for role playing within the classroom setting. The dialogues on page 67 can easily be adapted as a classroom game whereby one student imagines another student to be in one of the places shown on the page, and the rest of the class take turns to ask questions in Arabic to establish the imaginary person's identity and whereabouts.

Having completed "The Key to Arabic" successfully, students should feel comfortable in reading any passage of vocalised text presented to them, and will hopefully have gained the confidence needed to take their study of this challenging language further.

The Arabic Alphabet

الْحُرُوفُ الْعَرَبِيَّةُ

Jeem ج	Thaa ث	Taa ت	Baa ب	Alif ا
Raa ر	Dhaal ذ	Daal د	Khaa خ	Ḥaa ح
Ḍaad ض	Ṣaad ص	Sheen ش	Seen س	Zaa ز
Faa ف	Ghayn غ	ʿAyn ع	Ẓa ظ	Ṭa ط
Noon ن	Meem م	Laam ل	Kaaf ك	Qaaf ق
		Yaa ي	Waaw و	Haa هـ

Quick Reference Guide to Reading Skills

ْ	سَّ	سُّ	سِّ	سّ	ا	و	ي	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	aa	oo	ee	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

1. The Short Vowels and Tanween

There are three short vowels in Arabic. They are written above or below the Arabic letters.

a) Kasra ِ This is a short diagonal stroke written below an Arabic letter. It is pronounced 'i', as in the English word 'lip'. e.g.

دِ رِ وِ

Di Ri Wi

ٍ If kasra is doubled, it changes the sound from 'i' to 'in' as in the English word 'tin'. This doubling of the vowel is known as "tanween kasra". e.g.

دٍ رٍ وٍ

Din Rin Win

b) Ḍamma ُ This is shaped rather like a small version of the Arabic letter waaw, and it is written above an Arabic letter. It is pronounced 'u', as in the English word 'full'. e.g.

دُ رُ وُ

Du Ru Wu

ٌ or ُُ If ḍamma is doubled, it changes the sound from 'u' to 'un' as in the English word 'sun'. This doubling of the vowel is known as "tanween ḍamma". The two ḍammas are usually written in a joined-up form, though they may also be written separately. e.g.

دٌ رٌ وٌ

Dun Run Wun

c) Fatḥa َ This is a short diagonal stroke written above an Arabic letter. It is pronounced 'a', as in the English word 'dad'. e.g.

(Say 'fat-ḥa')

دَ رَ وَ

Da Ra Wa

ً If fatḥa is doubled, it changes the sound from 'a' to 'an' as in the English word 'man'. It is usually – though not always – supported by an alif. This doubling of the vowel is known as "tanween fatḥa". e.g.

دًا رًا وًا

Dan Ran Wan

2. Joining up Arabic Letters

Arabic is written from right to left across the page. Arabic words are written in a joined-up form. To achieve this, the letters within a word must be extended to join up with the following letter, unless they are one of the six 'naughty' letters (see overleaf). The letters that are being extended lose their tails in the joining process. The last letter in the word is written in its final form, which usually resembles the isolate or 'by itself' form of the letter, though it is attached to the letter just before it by a short joining line.

You will learn the correct way of joining each letter during the course of this book, but for now, study the following examples to gain an overview of how letters are joined.

a) 'Boat' shaped letters

ب ت ث ف

to stand firm	ثَبَتَ
to open	فَتَحَ

ثَ بَ تَ ← ثَـبَـتَ ← ثَبَتَ

فَ تَ حَ ← فَـتَـحَ ← فَتَحَ

b) Letters with U-shaped tails

س ش ص ض

ق ل ن

to engrave	نَقَشَ
to smooth	صَقَلَ
to be over	سَلَفَ
to stick	لَصِقَ

نَ قَ شَ ← نَـقَـشَ ← نَقَشَ

صَ قَ لَ ← صَـقَـلَ ← صَقَلَ

سَ لَ فَ ← سَـلَـفَ ← سَلَفَ

لَ صِ قَ ← لَـصِـقَ ← لَصِقَ

c) Letters with trailing tails

ج ح خ ع غ

to succeed	نَجَحَ
to be busy	شَغَلَ
to feel embarrassed	خَجِلَ

نَ جَ حَ ← نَـجَـحَ ← نَجَحَ

شَ غَ لَ ← شَـغَـلَ ← شَغَلَ

خَ جِ لَ ← خَـجِـلَ ← خَجِلَ

d) Other letters, excluding the 'naughty letters'

ط ظ ك م ه ي

to do wrong	ظَلَمَ
to tell a fortune	كَهَنَ
to be dry	يَبِسَ

ظَ لَ مَ ← ظَـلَـمَ ← ظَلَمَ

كَ هَ نَ ← كَـهَـنَ ← كَهَنَ

يَ بِ سَ ← يَـبِـسَ ← يَبِسَ

ْ	ّ	ُّ	ِّ	ّ	ا	و	ي	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	aa	oo	ee	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

e) The 'Naughty' Letters

There are six 'naughty' letters, which cannot be extended to the left and as a result should not be connected to the letter in front of them. The six naughty letters are:

ا د ذ ر ز و

أ + ب = أب	ب + ا = بـا
و + ل = ول	ل + و = لو
د + ب = دب	ب + د = بد

3. The Long Vowels

Three letters of the Arabic alphabet are used to lengthen the sound of the short vowels. These letters are:

و Waaw is used to lengthen the 'u' sound of ḍamma, so it sounds like 'oo' as in 'moon'.

ي Yaa is used to lengthen the 'i' of kasra, so it sounds like 'ee' as in 'knee'.

ا Alif is used to lengthen the 'a' sound of fatḥa, so it sounds like 'aa' ('aardvark').

بَا	جَا	رَا	بِي	جِي	رِي	بُو	جُو	رُو
Baa	Jaa	Raa	Bee	Jee	Ree	Boo	Joo	Roo

When alif itself is lengthened by an alif, it becomes an extra long 'aa' sound called alif al-madd, which is written like this: آ e.g. 'Aaameen' (amen): آمين.

When a laam is followed by an alif, there is a special way of writing it (called a laam-alif) which looks like this: لَا or, when the laam is preceded by another letter, like this: ـلَا e.g. لَامِعٌ، سَلَامٌ.

'laami'un' (shining) 'salaamun' (peace)

4. Sukoon

ْ A sukoon is a small circle placed on an Arabic letter to indicate the absence of a vowel upon the letter. The letter on which a sukoon is placed must be assimilated to (i.e. slid together with) the sound of the last vowel before it, even if that vowel is at the end of the previous word.

قِفْ	نَمْ	مُرْ	فِرْ	زُرْ	كَمْ
Qif	Nam	Mur	Fir	Zur	Kam

5. Shadda

ّ Shadda is a symbol written above a letter to show that the letter has been doubled, and therefore sounds stronger. The short vowels are written with a shadda like this:

َّ ُّ ِّ or ّ	أُ + مْ + مُ = أُمٌّ	رَ + بْ + بَ = رَبَّ	بِ + رْ + رٍ = بِرٍّ

Hamza: ء and Alif: ا

Hamza, known as a glottal stop in English, is an Arabic consonant that often accompanies tanween, sukoon, or short vowels. Hamza is itself often accompanied by a supporting letter or 'chair' which may take many forms, depending on rather complex rules that we needn't explore here. The various ways in which hamza may appear are shown below. For the purpose of reading, it is best to ignore the 'chair' hamza is sitting on and to concentrate on reading the vowel sound that the hamza is supporting.



Alif, when not supporting a hamza, is a weak letter that takes the sound of any vowel accompanying or preceding it. Sometimes alif is a silent letter.

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.

إِ ءِ ئِ ـئِـ أُ ؤُ ئُ ـئُـ ءُ أَ ـؤَ ـئَـ ءَ

إٍ ءٍ ئٍ أٌ ؤٌ ئٌ ءٌ أً ـئًا ؤًا ءًا ءً

أْ ؤْ ـئْـ ـئْ إِي إِيـ أُو أَو أَي أَيـ

ْ	َّ	ُّ	ِّ	ّ	aa ا	oo و	ee ي	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)				an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



Baa

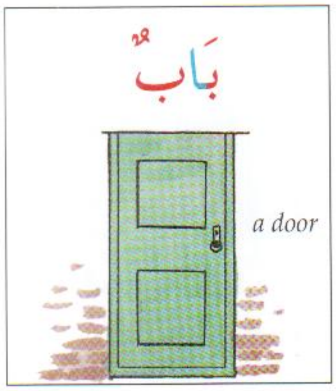


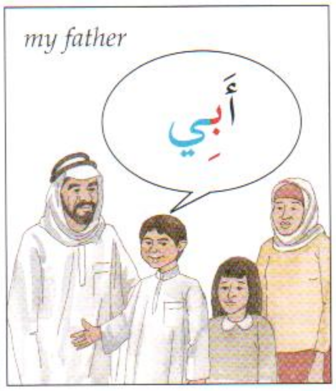
بِبُبَ	ـبَ	ـبُـ	بِـ	بَ	بُ	بِ

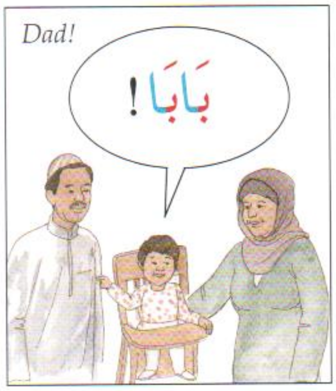
بَبُبٍ	بَبِبٌ	بِبُبًا	بًا	بٌ	بٍ

بَيْ	بَيْـ	بَوْ	بَا	بُو	بِي	بِيـ	بَّ	بْ

Copy each row onto the lines provided and practise reading the words.







my door	*a door*	*my father*	*a father*
بَابِي	بَابٌ	أَبِي	أَبٌ

source, core	*he said 'daddy'*	*dad*	*August*
بُؤْبُؤٌ	بَأْبَأَ	بَابَا	آب

ْ	ّ َ	ّ ُ	ّ ِ	ّ	ا	و	ي	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	aa	oo	ee	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.

ت

تـتـت

Taa

ـة ة

Taa Marbooṭa (tied up taa)

تِ تُ تَ تِـتُـتَ تِتُتَ تِتُةِ

تٍ تٌ تًا تِتُتًا تِتُةً تَتِتٌ تَتَةٌ تُتَتٍ تُتَةٍ

تْ تَّ ةِ ةُ ةَ تِيـ تِي تُو تَا تَوْ تَيْـ تَيْ

Copy each row onto the lines provided and practise reading the words.

I repent	definitely	a mulberry	she perished
أَتُوبُ	بَتَاتًا	تُوتٌ	تَبَّتْ



a house

بَيْتٌ



mulberry

تُوتٌ

repentance	dislike; pride	he stayed overnight	a house
تَوْبَةٌ	إِبَاءَةٌ	بَاتَ	بَيْتٌ



تَابَ

he repented

ـْ	ـَّ	ـُّ	ـِّ	ـّ	ـَا	ـُو	ـِي	ـً	ـٌ	ـٌ	ـٍ	ـَ	ـُ	ـِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	aa	oo	ee	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.

ث

Thaa

ثث

ثِ   ثُ   ثَ   ثِـ   ـثُـ   ـثَ   ثُثِثَ

ثٍ   ثٌ   ثًا   ثُثِثًا   ثَثِثٌ   ثُثَثٍ

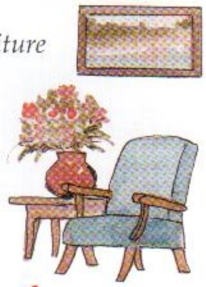
ثْ   ثَّ   ثِيـ   ثِي   ثُو   ثَا   ثَوْ   ثَيْـ   ثَيْ

Copy each row onto the lines provided and practise reading the words.

furniture	garment; dress	establishment	he withstood
أَثَاثٌ	ثَوْبٌ	إِثْبَاتٌ	ثَبَتَ

abundant growth	he spread, scattered	he yawned	stabilization
أَثِيثٌ	بَثَّ	تَثَاءَبَ	تَثْبِيتٌ

furniture



أَثَاثٌ

a dress, gown



ثَوْبٌ



أَثَاثِي

my furniture

ْ	َّ	ُّ	ِّ	ّ	َا	ُو	ِي	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	aa	oo	ee	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



Jeem



جِ جُ جَ جِـ ـجُـ ـجَ جِجُجَ

جٍ جٌ جاً جِجُجاً جِجٌجَ جٍجَجُ

جْ جَّ جِيـ جِي جُو جَا جَوْ جَيْ جَيْ

Copy each row onto the lines provided and practise reading the words.

he answered, replied	my pocket	a pocket	a coward
أَجَابَ	جَيْبِي	جَيْبٌ	جُبَّأٌ

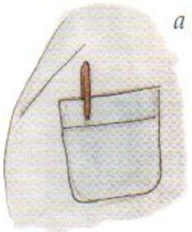
bragging, boasting	a crown	flowing	he came
تَبَجُّحٌ	تَاجٌ	ثَجَّاجًا	جَاءَ

a crown

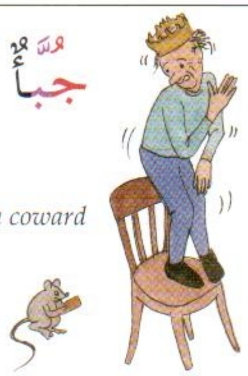


تَاجٌ

a pocket



جَيْبٌ



جُبَّأٌ

a coward

ْ	ـَّ	ـُّ	ـِّ	ـّ	ا	و	ي	ـً	ـٌ	ـٌ	ـٍ	ـَ	ـُ	ـِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	aa	oo	ee	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



Ḥaa



حِ حُ حَ حِـ ـحُـ ـحَ حِحُحَ

حٍ حٌ حًا حِحُحًا حَحِحٌ حُحَحٍ

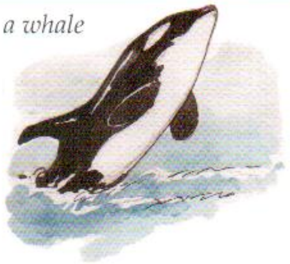
حْ حَّ حِيـ حِي حُو حَا حَوْ حَيْـ حَيْ

Copy each row onto the lines provided and practise reading the words.

pilgrims	hijab, headscarf	seeds	a watermelon
حُجَّاجٌ	حِجَابٌ	حُبُوبٌ	حَبْحَبٌ

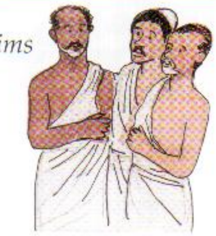
he looked for; he researched	protest	under	calamity
بَحَثَ	اِحْتِجَاجٌ	تَحْتَ	جَوْحٌ

a whale



حُوتٌ

pilgrims



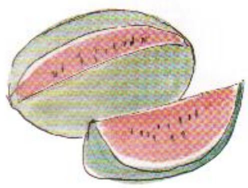
حُجَّاجٌ

hijab, a headscarf



حِجَابٌ

a watermelon



حَبْحَبٌ

ْ	سَّ	سُّ	سِّ	ّ	aa ا	oo و	ee ي	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)				an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



Khaa



خِ خُ خَ خِـ ـخُ ـخَ خِخُخَ

خٍ خٌ خًا خِخُخًا خَخِخٌ خُخَخٍ

خْ خَّ خِيـ خِي خُو خَا خَوْ خَيْـ خَيْ

Copy each row onto the lines provided and practise reading the words.

a peach

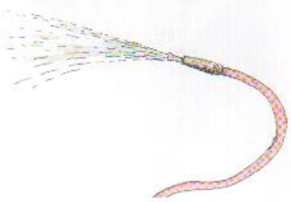


خَوْخ

my brother my sister



a nozzle



بَخَّاخَة

my sister	a wicked person	a peach	he hid, concealed
أُخْتِي	خَبِيث	خَوْخ	خَبَأَ

Excellent! Bravo!	a brother	a nozzle	my brother
بَخْ بَخْ	أَخ	بَخَّاخَة	أَخِي

ْ	َّ	ُّ	ِّ	ّ	ا	و	ي	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	aa	oo	ee	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



Daal



دِ	دُ	دَ	دِ ـ ـدُ ـدَ	دِ دُ دَ

دٍ	دٌ	دًا	دِدُاً	دَدِدٌ	دُدَدٍ

دْ	دَّ	دِيـ	دِي	دُو	دَا	دَوْ	دَيْـ	دَيْ

Copy each row onto the lines provided and practise reading the words.

a riding animal	*a worm*	*a bear*	*a chicken*
دَابَّةٌ	دُودَةٌ	دُبٌّ	دَجَاجَةٌ

my grandfather	*a grandfather*	*he began*	*sound of footsteps*
جَدِّي	جَدٌّ	بَدَأَ	دَبْدَبَةٌ

a bear



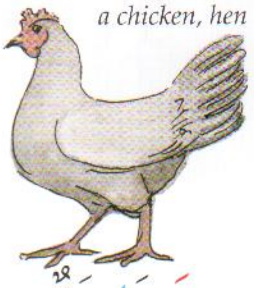
دُبٌّ

a worm



دُودَةٌ

a chicken, hen



دَجَاجَةٌ

ْ	َّ	ُّ	ِّ	ّ	aa اَ	oo وُ	ee يِ	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)				an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



Dhaal

(sound as in '<u>th</u>e')



ذِ	ذُ	ذَ	ذِـ ـذُ ـذَ	ذِذُذَ

ذٍ	ذٌ	ذًا	ذِذُذًا	ذَذِذٌ	ذُذَذٍ

ذْ	ذَّ	ذِي	ذِيـ	ذُو	ذَا	ذَوْ	ذَيْـ	ذَيْ

Copy each row onto the lines provided and practise reading the words.

a shoe



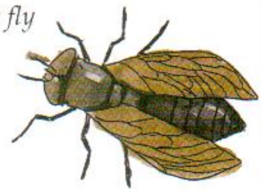
حِذَاءٌ

a wolf



ذِئْبٌ

a fly

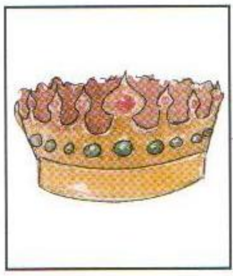


ذُبَابَةٌ

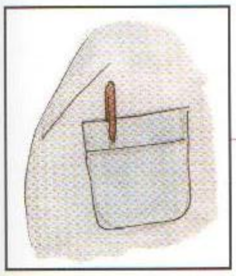
a wolf	a fly	a lock of hair	he slaughtered
ذِئْبٌ	ذُبَابَةٌ	ذُؤَابَةٌ	ذَبَحَ

how lovely/excellent!	he took	swinging (like a pendulum)	a shoe
حَبَّذَا	أَخَذَ	تَذَبْذَبَ	حِذَاءٌ

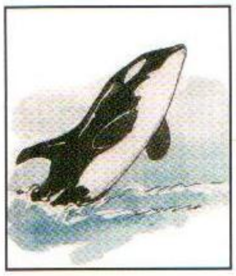
Find a word on the right that matches a picture on the left, then write it out in its joined-up form next to the correct picture.



1. أَ ثَ ا ثٌ



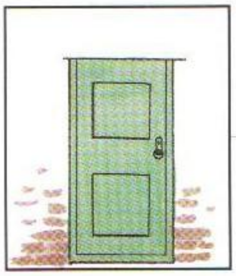
2. بَ ا بٌ



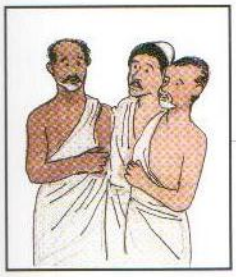
3. بَ يْ تٌ



4. تُ و تٌ



5. تَ ا جٌ



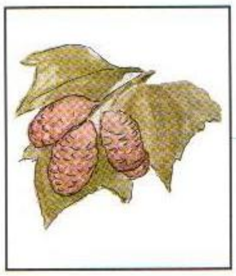
6. ثَ وْ بٌ



7. جَ يْ بٌ



8. حِ جَ ا بٌ

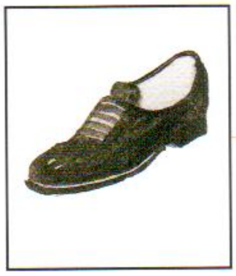


9. حُ و تٌ



10. حُ جَّ ا جٌ

Find a word on the right that matches a picture on the left, then write it out in its joined-up form next to the correct picture.



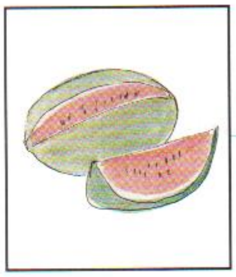
11.



12.



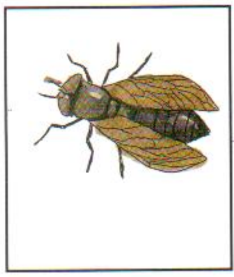
13.



14.



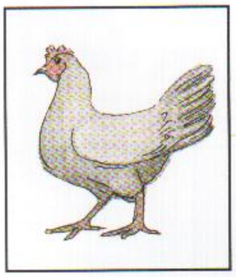
15.



16.



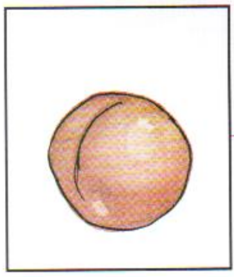
17.



18.



19.



20.

أَ بِ ي

جُ بَّ أٌ

حَ بْ حَ بٌ

حِ ذَ ا ءٌ

خَ وْ خٌ

دُ بٌّ

دَ جَ ا جَ ةٌ

دُ و دَ ةٌ

ذُ بَ ا بَ ةٌ

ذِ ئْ بٌ

sukoon ْ	a َّ	u ُّ	i ِّ	shadda ّ	aa ـَا	oo ـُو	ee ـِي	an ً	un ٌ	un ٌ	in ٍ	a َ	u ُ	i ِ
(no vowel)				(doubled letter)										

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



Raa



رِ   رُ   رَ   رِ - ـرُ - ـرَ   رِرُرَ

رٍ   رٌ   رًا   رِرُرًا   رَرِرٌ   رُرَرٍ

رْ   رَّ   رِيـ   رِي   رُو   رَا   رَوْ   رَيْـ   رَيْ

Copy each row onto the lines provided and practise reading the words.

a bicycle	corn, maize	Rajab (name of month)	my Lord
دَرَّاجَةٌ	ذُرَةٌ	رَجَبٌ	رَبِّي

test, experiment	a bull	reward; pay, wages	post, mail
إِخْتِبَارٌ	ثَوْرٌ	أَجْرٌ	بَرِيدٌ

a bicycle



دَرَّاجَةٌ

a bull



ثَوْرٌ

a chameleon



حِرْبَاءُ

corn, maize



ذُرَةٌ

ْ	ـَّ	ـُّ	ـِّ	ـّ	ـَا	ـُو	ـِي	ـً	ـٌ	ـٌ	ـٍ	ـَ	ـُ	ـِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	aa	oo	ee	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



Zaa



زِ   زُ   زَ   زِ - ـزُ ـزَ   زِزُزَ

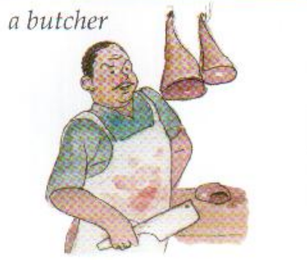
زٍ   زٌ   زًا   زِزُزًا   زَزِزٌ   زَزُزٍ

زْ   زَّ   زِيـ   زِي   زُو   زَا   زَوْ   زَيْـ   زَيْ

Copy each row onto the lines provided and practise reading the words.

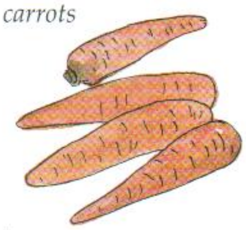
a lie, falsehood	a drinking glass, tumbler	oil	butter
زُورٌ	زُجَاجَةٌ	زَيْتٌ	زُبْدَةٌ

bread	a place of safety	a butcher	carrots
خُبْزٌ	حِرْزٌ	جَزَّارٌ	جَزَرٌ



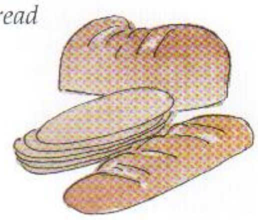
a butcher

جَزَّارٌ



carrots

جَزَرٌ

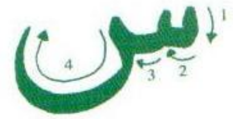


bread

خُبْزٌ

ْ	سَّ	سُّ	سِّ	ّ	ا	و	ي	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	aa	oo	ee	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



Seen



سِ سُ سَ سِـ ـسُـ ـسَ سِسُسَ

سٍ سٌ سًا سِسُسًا سَسِسٌ سُسَسٍ

سْ سَّ سِيـ سِي سُو سَا سَوْ سَيـْ سَيْ

Copy each row onto the lines provided and practise reading the words.

a bridge	a computer	a bed	a prayer mat
جِسْر	حَاسُوب	سَرِير	سَجَّادَة

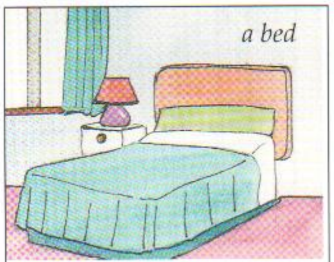
a head	teaching	glorification of God	a sum; an account
رَأْس	تَدْرِيس	تَسْبِيح	حِسَاب

a prayer mat



سَجَّادَة

a bed



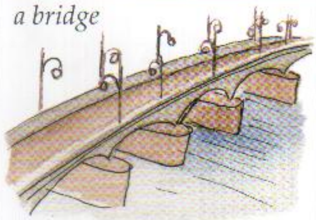
سَرِير

a computer



حَاسُوب

a bridge



جِسْر

ْ	ـَّ	ـُّ	ـِّ	ـّ	aa	oo	ee	ـً	ـٌ	ـُـُ	ـٍ	ـَ	ـُ	ـِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	ـَا	ـُو	ـِي	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.

ش

Sheen

ششش

شِ	شُ	شَ	شِـ ـشُـ ـشَ	شِشُشَ

شٍ	شٌ	شًا	شِشُشًا	شَشِشٌ	شُشَشٍ

شْ	شَّ	شِيـ	شِي	شُو	شَا	شَوْ	شَيْـ	شَيْ

Copy each row onto the lines provided and practise reading the words.

insects	wood	old age; grey hair	a tree
حَشَرَاتٌ	خَشَبٌ	شَيْبٌ	شَجَرَةٌ

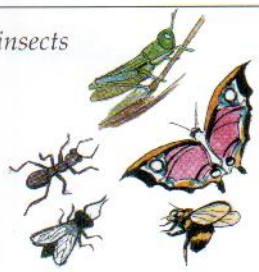
bringer of good news	she drinks	a smile	feathers
بَشِيرٌ	تَشْرَبُ	بَشَاشَةٌ	رِيشٌ

a tree



شَجَرَةٌ

insects



حَشَرَاتٌ

a feather



رِيشَةٌ

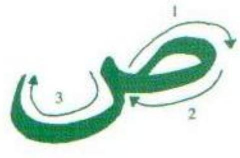
she is drinking



تَشْرَبُ

ْ	َّ	ُّ	ِّ	ّ	aa	oo	ee	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	ا	و	ي	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



Ṣaad



صِ صُ صَ صِـ ـصُـ ـصَ صِصُصَ

صٍ صٌ صًا صِصُصًا صَصِصٌ صُصَصٍ

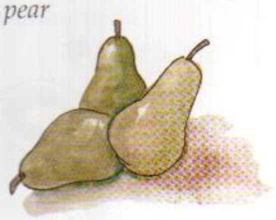
صْ صَّ صِيـ صِي صُو صَا صَوْ صَيْـ صَيْ

Copy each row onto the lines provided and practise reading the words.

a mat	a picture	voice	morning
حَصِيرَةٌ	صُورَةٌ	صَوْتٌ	صَبَاحٌ

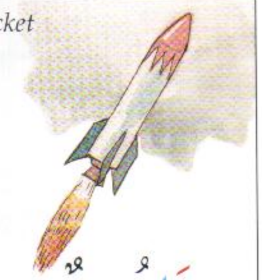
particular, specific	pears	cheap	a person, individual
خَاصٌّ	إِجَّاصٌ	رَخِيصٌ	شَخْصٌ

a pear



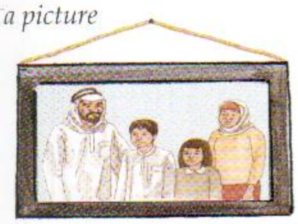
إِجَّاصٌ

a rocket



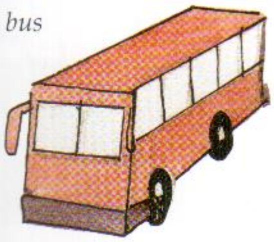
صَارُوخٌ

a picture



صُورَةٌ

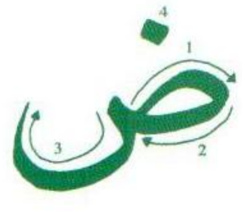
a bus



بَاصٌ

◌ْ	◌َّ	◌ُّ	◌ِّ	◌ّ	ا aa	و oo	ي ee	◌ً	◌ٌ	◌ٌ	◌ٍ	◌َ	◌ُ	◌ِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	aa	oo	ee	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



Ḍaad



ضِ ضُ ضَ ضِـ ـضُـ ـضَ ضِضُضَ

ضٍ ضٌ ضًا ضِضُضًا ضَضِضٌ ضُضَضٍ

ضْ ضَّ ضِيـ ضِي ضُو ضَا ضَوْ ضَيْـ ضَيْ

Copy each row onto the lines provided and practise reading the words.

a molar tooth



ضِرْس

civilisation	a molar tooth	light	noise, din
حَضَارَة	ضِرْس	ضَوْء	ضَجِيج

an egg



بَيْضَة

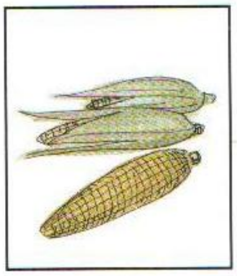
earth, ground	eggs	lowest point	green
أَرْض	بَيْض	حَضِيض	أَخْضَر

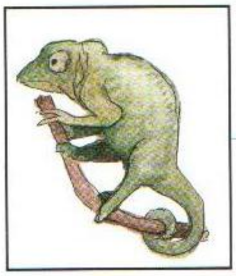
green

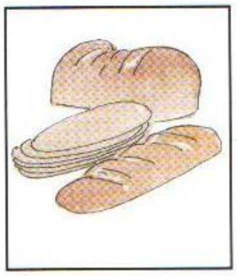


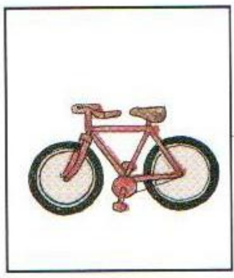
أَخْضَر

Find a word on the right that matches a picture on the left, then write it out in its joined-up form next to the correct picture.


1. ______

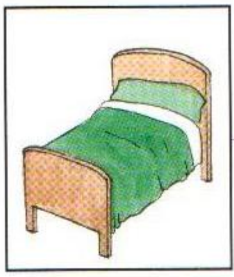

2. ______

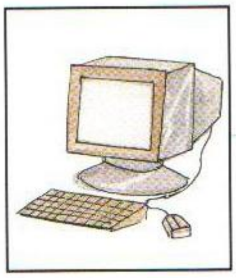

3. ______

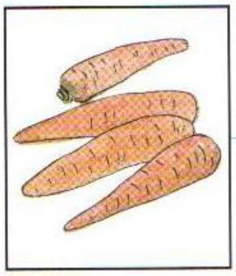

4. ______


5. ______


6. ______


7. ______


8. ______


9. ______


10. ______

ثَ وْ رٌ

جَ زَّ ا رٌ

جَ زَ رٌ

حَ ا سُ و بٌ

حِ رْ بَ ا ءُ

خُ بْ زٌ

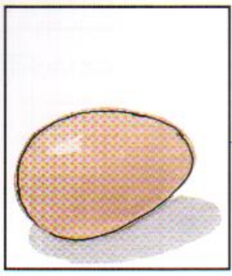
دَ رَّ ا جَ ةٌ

ذُ رَ ةٌ

سَ جَّ ا دَ ةٌ

سَ رِ ي رٌ

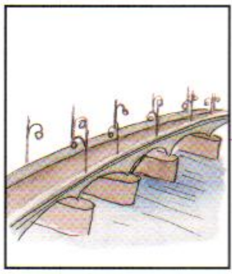
Find the missing letters in the box on the right to complete each word so that it matches its picture.



1. بَيْـ



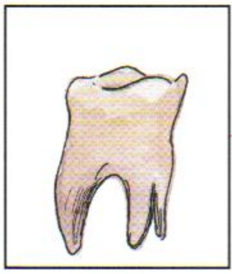
2. حَشَـ



3. جِسْـ



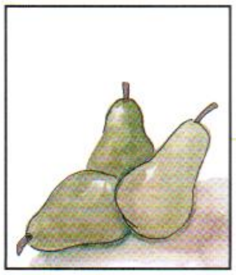
4. رِيشَـ



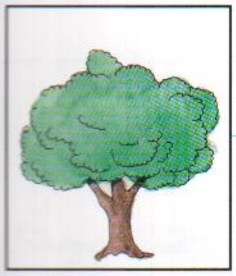
5. ضِـ   سٌ



6. صَا   خٌ



7. ـاصٌ



8. شَـ



9. أَ   ـرُ



10. صُـ   ةٌ

ـرْ

ـجَرَةٌ

إِجَّـ

ـرَاتٌ

رُو

ـوَرَ

ـرٌ

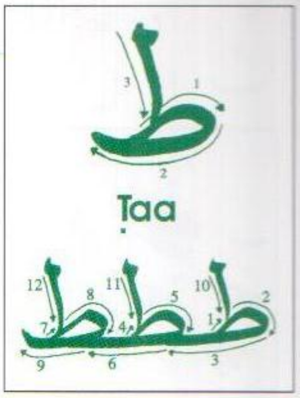
ـضَةٌ

ـةٌ

خْضَـ

ْ	َّ	ُّ	ِّ	ّ	اَ	ُو	ِي	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	aa	oo	ee	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



طِ طُ طَ ـطِ ـطُـ ـطَـ طِطُطَ

طٍ طٌ طًا طِطُطًا طَطِطٌ طُطَطٍ

طْ طَّ طِيـ طِي طُو طَا طَوْ طَيْـ طَيْ

a doctor	*a map, chart*	*a duck*	*a path, way*	*an aeroplane*
طَبِيبٌ	خَرِيطَةٌ	بَطٌّ	صِرَاطٌ	طَائِرَةٌ


ظِبَاءٌ
gazelles


طَيْرٌ
birds


طَبِيبٌ
a doctor


طَائِرَةٌ
a plane

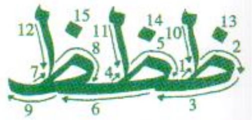

بَطَّةٌ
a duck

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



Ẓaa

(Like the sound of 'the', only heavier.)



ظِ	ظُ	ظَ	ظِـ	ـظُـ	ـظَ	ظِظُظَ

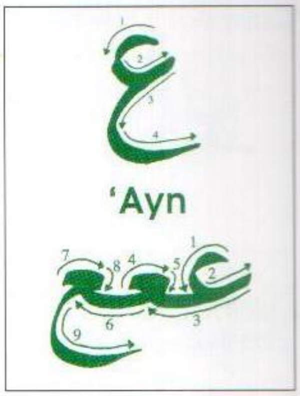
ظٍ	ظٌ	ظًا	ظِظُظًا	ظَظِظٌ	ظُظَظٍ

ظْ	ظَّ	ظِيـ	ظِي	ظُو	ظَا	ظَوْ	ظَيْـ	ظَيْ

a wet nurse	gazelles	luck, fortune	Abu Dhabi	a fence; enclosure
ظِئْرٌ	ظِبَاءٌ	حَظٌّ	أَبُو ظَبِي	حَظِيرَةٌ

sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	aa	oo	ee	an	un	un	in	a	u	i
ْ	َّ	ُّ	ِّ	ّ	ـَا	ـُو	ـِي	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



عِ عُ عَ عِـ ـعُـ ـعَ عِعُعَ

عٍ عٌ عًا عِعُعًا عَعِعٌ عُعَعٍ

عْ عَّ عِيـ عِي عُو عَا عَوْ عَيْـ عَيْ

an old woman	happy	a clock	a finger	an arm
عَجُوزٌ	سَعِيدٌ	سَاعَةٌ	إِصْبَعٌ	ذِرَاعٌ



سَاعَةٌ

a clock



إِصْبَعٌ

a finger



ذِرَاعٌ

an arm



بَبَّغَاءُ

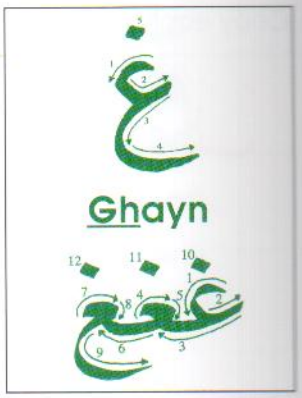
a parrot



غِطَاءٌ

a lid

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



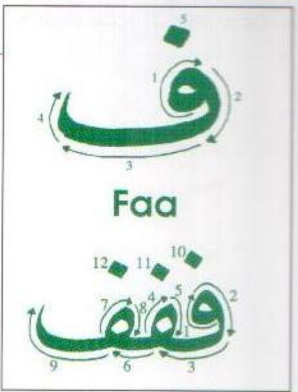
غِ	غُ	غَ	غِـ ـغُـ ـغَ	غُغَغِ	
غٍ	غٌ	غًا	غُغِغًا	غَغِغٌ	غُغَغٍ

غْ	غَّ	غِيـ	غِي	غُو	غَا	غَوْ	غَيْـ	غَيْ

a lid	*small*	*a wrist*	*a parrot*	*a crow*
غِطَاءٌ	صَغِير	رُسْغٌ	بَبَّغَاءُ	غُرَابٌ

ْ	َّ	ُّ	ِّ	ّ	ا	و	ي	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	aa	oo	ee	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



فِ	فُ	فَ	فِـ	ـفُـ ـفَ	فِفُفَ

فٍ	فٌ	فًا	فِفُفًا	فَفِفٌ	فُفَفٍ

فْ	فَّ	فِيـ	فِي	فُو	فَا	فَوْ	فَيْـ	فَيْ

a butterfly	*a whistle*	*a room*	*a pavement, sidewalk*	*an envelope*
فَرَاشَةٌ	صَفَّارَةٌ	غُرْفَةٌ	رَصِيفٌ	ظَرْفٌ

فَرَاشَةٌ

a butterfly

a yellow whistle

صَفَّارَةٌ صَفْرَاءُ

a cat

قِطَّةٌ

حَقِيبَةٌ

a bag, briefcase

a jug

إِبْرِيقٌ

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.

ق
Qaaf
ققق

قِ	قُ	قَ	قِـ	ـقُـ ـقَ	قِقُقَ

قِ	قٌ	قًا	قِقُقًا	قِقُقٌ	قُقَقٍ

قْ	قّ	قِيـ	قِي	قُو	قَا	قَوْ	قَيْـ	قَيْ

a cat	a train	a bag, briefcase	a jug	a market
قِطَّةٌ	قِطَارٌ	حَقِيبَةٌ	إِبْرِيقٌ	سُوقٌ

Break up each word on the right into its separate letters, then rewrite it in its joined form. Write the meaning of the word in English in the left hand column. The first one has been done for you.

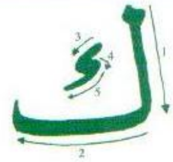
a doctor	طَبِيبٌ	طَ بِ ي بٌ	طَبِيبٌ	e.g.
			طَائِرَةٌ	1.
			تَسْبِيحٌ	2.
			رَخِيصٌ	3.
			ظِبَاءٌ	4.
			سَاعَةٌ	5.
			إِصْبَعٌ	6.
			ذِرَاعٌ	7.
			بَبَّغَاءُ	8.
			غِطَاءٌ	9.
			فَرَاشَةٌ	10.

Break up each word on the right into its separate letters, then rewrite it in its joined form. Write the meaning of the word in English in the left hand column. The first one has been done for you.

a room	غُرْفَةٌ	عُ رْ فَ ةٌ	غُرْفَةٌ	e.g.
			إِبْرِيقٌ	11.
			صَفَّارَةٌ	12.
			قِطَّةٌ	13.
			حَقِيبَةٌ	14.
			رُسْغٌ	15.
			قِطَارٌ	16.
			ضَجِيجٌ	17.
			غُرَابٌ	18.
			حَضَارَةٌ	19.
			تَدْرِيسٌ	20.

ْ	َّ	ُّ	ِّ	ّ	ا aa	و oo	ي ee	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	aa	oo	ee	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



Kaaf



كِ   كُ   كَ   كِـ ـكُـ ـكَ   كِكُكَ

كٍ   كٌ   كًا   كِكُكًا   كَكِكٌ   كُكَكٍ

كْ   كَّ   كِيـ   كِي   كُو   كَا   كَوْ   كَيْـ   كَيْ

a book	*a star*	*a sofa, couch*	*weak, feeble*	*a window*
كِتَابٌ	كَوْكَبٌ	أَرِيكَةٌ	رَكِيكٌ	شُبَّاكٌ

a book	a sofa, couch	a window	a spiral	an elephant
				
كِتَابٌ	أَرِيكَةٌ	شُبَّاكٌ	لَوْلَبٌ	فِيلٌ

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.

ل

Laam

لـلـل

لِ لُ لَ لـِ ـلُـ ـلَ لِلُلَ

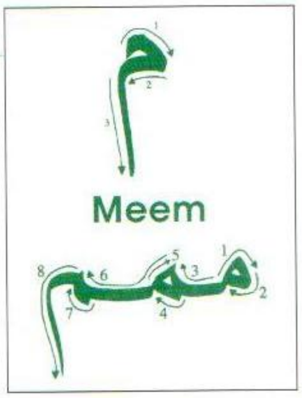
لٍ لٌ ل + ا = لا لاً لِلُلاً لِلَلٌ لُلَلٍ

لْ لَّ لِيـ لِي لُو لَا لَوْ لَيْـ لَيْ

a spiral	a dog	a cupboard, closet	a refrigerator, ice box	an elephant
لَوْلَبٌ	كَلْبٌ	دُولَابٌ	ثَلَّاجَةٌ	فِيلٌ

ْ	َّ	ُّ	ِّ	ّ	ا	و	ي	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	aa	oo	ee	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



مِ مُ مَ مِـ ـمُـ ـمَ مِمُمَ

مٍ مٌ مًا مِمُمًا مَمِمٌ مُمَمٍ

مْ مَّ مِيـ مِي مُو مَا مَوْ مَيْـ مَيْ

a banana	a nurse	a mouth	a teacher (m.)	an imam, prayer leader
مَوْزَةٌ	مُمَرِّضَةٌ	فَمٌ	مُعَلِّمٌ	إِمَامٌ

an eye  عَيْنٌ	an ostrich  نَعَامَةٌ	 a mouth فَمٌ	a camel  جَمَلٌ	a banana  مَوْزَةٌ

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.

ن

Noon

نن

نُنِنَ	ـنَ	ـنُـ	نـِ	نَ	نُ	نِ

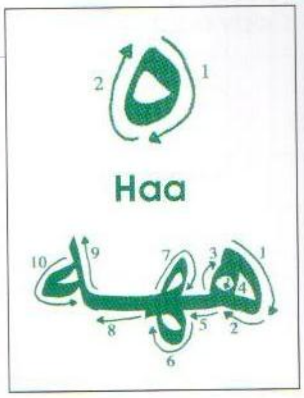
نُنَنٍ	نَنِنٌ	نِنُنًا	نًا	نٌ	نٍ

نَيْ	نَيْـ	نَوْ	نَا	نُو	نِي	نِيـ	نَّ	نْ

a snake	an eye	a pipe	a box	an ostrich
ثُعْبَانٌ	عَيْنٌ	أُنْبُوبٌ	صُنْدُوقٌ	نَعَامَةٌ

sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	aa	oo	ee	an	un	un	in	a	u	i
ْ	َّ	ُّ	ِّ	ّ	ا	و	ي	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



هِهُهَ	ـهَ ـهُـ	هِـ	هَ	هُ	هِ

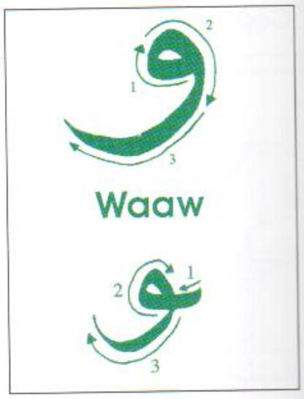
هُهَهٌ	هَهِهٌ	هِهُهًا	هًا	هٌ	هٍ

هَيْ	هَيْـ	هَوْ	هَا	هُو	هِي	هِيـ	هـَّ	ـهْ

lips	an alarm clock	hard-working	important	a telephone
شِفَاهٌ	مُنَبِّهٌ	مُجْتَهِدٌ	مُهِمٌّ	هَاتِفٌ

a telephone  هَاتِفٌ	*a flower*  زَهْرَةٌ	*a face*  وَجْهٌ	*black*  أَسْوَدُ	*a peacock*  طَاوُوسٌ

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



وِ	وُ	وَ	وِـ ـوُـ ـوَ	وِوُوَ

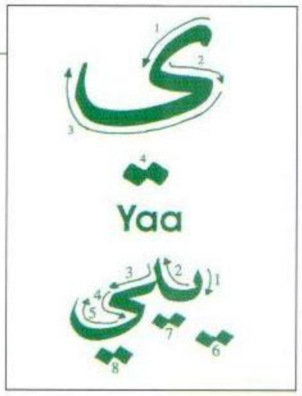
وٍ	وٌ	وًا	وِوُوًا	وَوِوٌ	وُوَوٍ

وْ	وَّ	وِيـ	وِي	وُو	وَا	وَوْ	وَيْـ	وَيْ

a face	*black*	*growth, progress*	*a puppy*	*a peacock*
وَجْهٌ	أَسْوَدُ	نُمُوٌّ	جَرْوٌ	طَاوُوسٌ

ْ	َّ	ُّ	ِّ	ّ	aa	oo	ee	ً	ٌ	ٌ	ٍ	َ	ُ	ِ
sukoon (no vowel)	a	u	i	shadda (doubled letter)	َا	ُو	ِي	an	un	un	in	a	u	i

Copy each row twice onto the lines provided and practise reading the sounds.



يِ	يُ	يَ	يـِ	ـيـُ	ـيَ	يَيُيِ

يٍ	يٌ	يًا	يُيِيًا	يَيِيٌ	يُيَيٍ

يْ	يَّ	يِيـ	يِي	يُو	يَا	يَوْ	يَيْـ	يَيْ

a day	a car	a kettle	a chair	grey (gray)
يَوْمٌ	سَيَّارَةٌ	غَلَّايَةٌ	كُرْسِيٌّ	رَمَادِيٌّ

Similar Sounding Words

The pairs of words listed below demonstrate the importance of correct pronunciation in Arabic, because the slightest difference in sound can totally change the meaning of a word. Each pair of words below contains similar sounding letters. Practise reading them several times with your Arabic teacher until you can tell them apart. Then ask your teacher to dictate them to you until you can write them down correctly.

spacious	فَسِيحٌ	eloquent	فَصِيحٌ	clay, soil	طِينٌ	a fig	تِينٌ
check-up; test	فَحْصٌ	awe; respect; prestige	فَأْسٌ	a pilot	طَيَّارٌ	a trend	تَيَّارٌ
desire	حِرْصٌ	inheritance	إِرْثٌ	cleverness	فِطْنَةٌ	discord, civil strife	فِتْنَةٌ
correct	صَوَابٌ	rewards	ثَوَابٌ	he measured	كَالَ	he said	قَالَ
direction	صَوْبٌ	dress	ثَوْبٌ	a dog	كَلْبٌ	a heart	قَلْبٌ
glossy	صَقِيلٌ	heavy	ثَقِيلٌ	he deceived	كَادَ	he wrecked	قَاضَ
a pyramid	هَرَمٌ	holy; forbidden	حَرَمٌ	after	بَعْدَ	some	بَعْضَ
he strove, endeavoured	جَهَدَ	he denied	جَحَدَ	a path, trail	دَرْبٌ	beating, hitting	ضَرْبٌ
a river	نَهْرٌ	an axe	نَحْرٌ	a stench, stink	ذَفَرٌ	victory, triumph	ظَفَرٌ
a worker (m)	عَامِلٌ	pregnant	حَامِلٌ	he vowed	نَذَرَ	he looked	نَظَرَ
confession, admission	اِعْتِرَافٌ	profession, trade	اِحْتِرَافٌ	flowers	زُهُورٌ	appearance	ظُهُورٌ
a brain	عَقْلٌ	food	أَكْلٌ	he whistled	صَفَرَ	he travelled	سَفَرَ
strangeness	غَرَابَةٌ	ruin	خَرَابَةٌ	he poured	صَبَّ	he insulted	سَبَّ
excess	غُلُوٌّ	emptiness	خُلُوٌّ	son-in-law	صِهْرٌ	sorcery	سِحْرٌ

This is ...

If you want to say 'This is a (something)' in Arabic, you need to know whether the thing you are introducing is masculine or feminine. Many singular feminine nouns in Arabic end in a 'tied taa' (taa marbuta) and are therefore easily recognisable. Most singular nouns that do not end in taa marbuta are masculine.

In Arabic, the verb 'to be' is not usually used in the present tense, so you don't need a separate word for 'is' in the sentences that follow, because the idea of 'is' is implied in the word for 'this'.

The masculine word for 'This is' in Arabic is: هَذَا which is pronounced 'haadha', as if it has a long 'aa' sound after the haa. For example: This is a (male) teacher: هَذَا مُعَلِّمٌ (haadha mu'allimun).

The feminine word for 'This is' in Arabic is: هَذِهِ which is pronounced 'haadhihi', again, as if it has a long 'aa' sound after the haa at the beginning of the word.

For example: This is a (female) teacher: هَذِهِ مُعَلِّمَةٌ (haadhihi mu'allimatun).

Practise reading the following sentences and learn the words and their meanings.
Copy each sentence out onto the line provided.

This is a chair.



هَذَا كُرْسِيٌّ .

This is a lock.



هَذَا قُفْلٌ .

This is a drum.



هَذَا طَبْلٌ .

This is a (pair of) glasses.



هَذِهِ نَظَّارَةٌ .

This is a book.



هَذَا كِتَابٌ .

This is a knife.



هَذَا سِكِّينٌ .

This is a fork.



هَذِهِ شَوْكَةٌ .

This is a cup.



هَذَا كَأْسٌ .

This is a ball.



هَذِهِ كُرَةٌ .

This is a desk.



هَذِهِ مِنْضَدَةٌ .

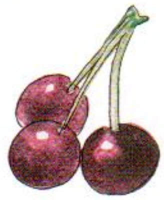
Write a sentence in Arabic under each picture using the correct form of "This is", following the examples on the opposite page. The words ending in taa marbuta are all feminine: the rest are masculine.

This is a table.



طَاوِلَةٌ

This is a cherry.



كَرَزٌ

This is an apricot



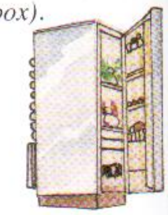
مِشْمِشٌ

This is a lemon.



لَيْمُونٌ

This is a fridge (ice box).



ثَلاَّجَةٌ

This is a rabbit.



أَرْنَبٌ

This is a squirrel.



سِنْجَابٌ

This is a prayer mat.



سَجَّادَةٌ

This is a candle.



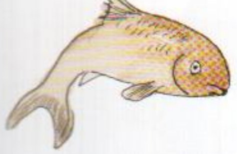
شَمْعَةٌ

This is a (piece of) meat.



لَحْمٌ

This is a fish.



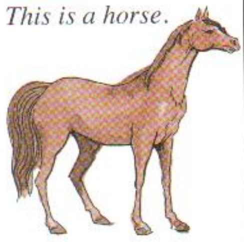
سَمَكَةٌ

This is a pig.



خِنْزِيرٌ

This is a horse.



حِصَانٌ

This is a snake.



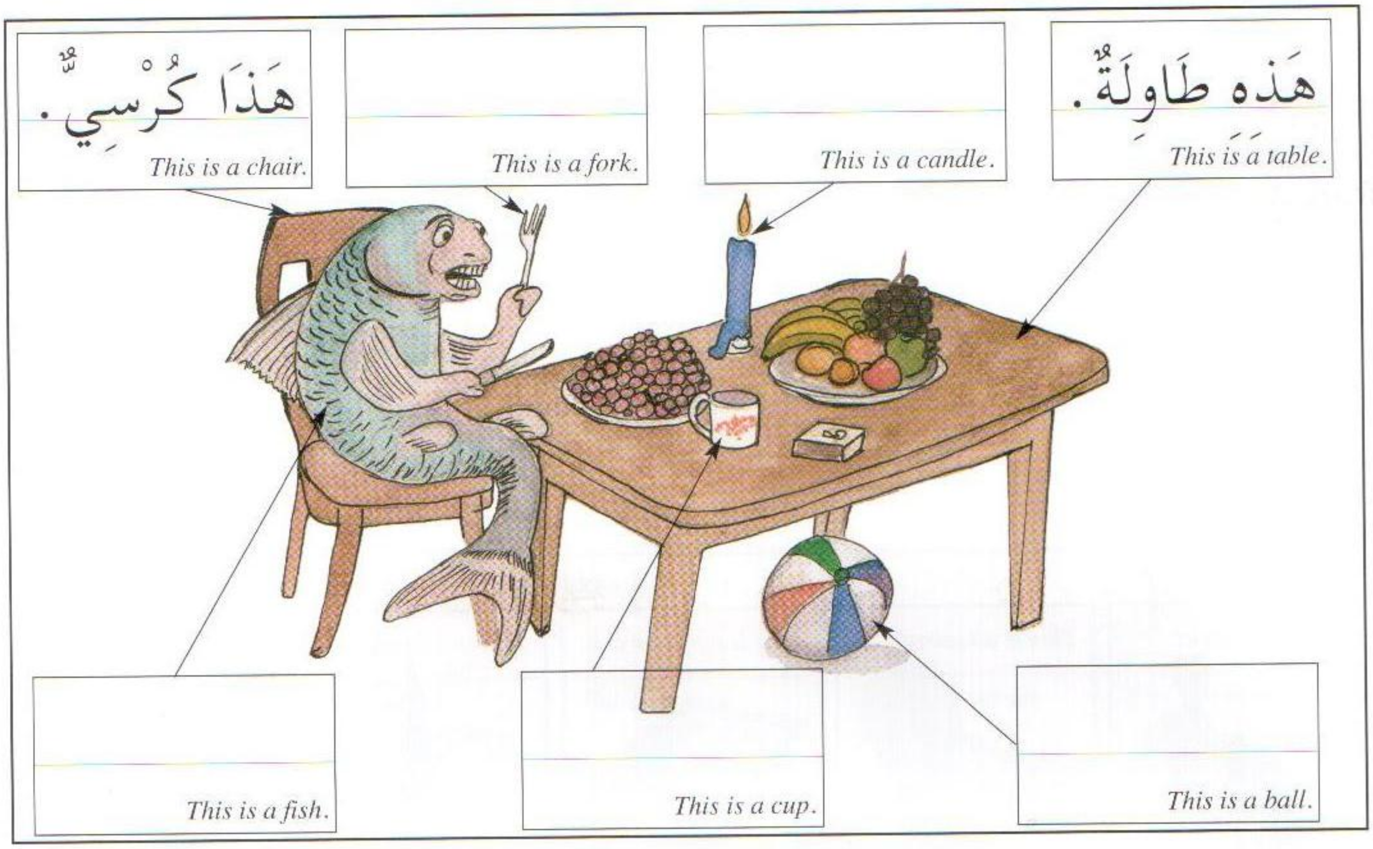
ثُعْبَانٌ

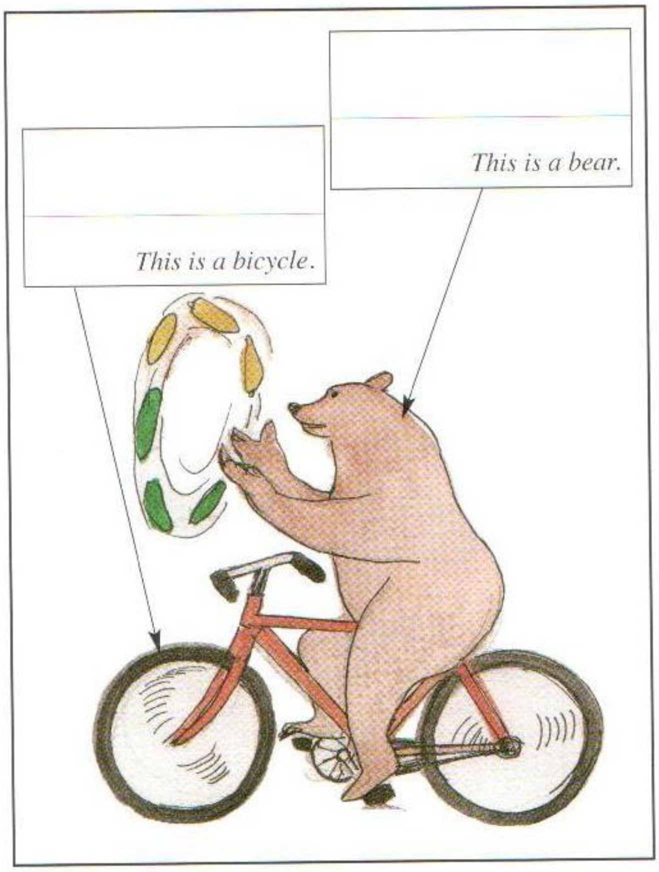
This is a lioness.

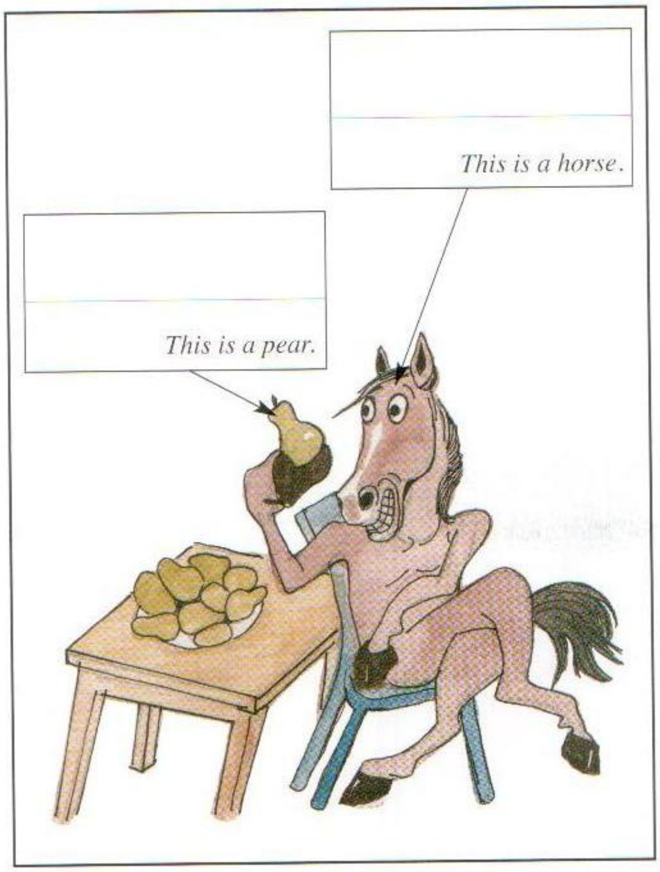


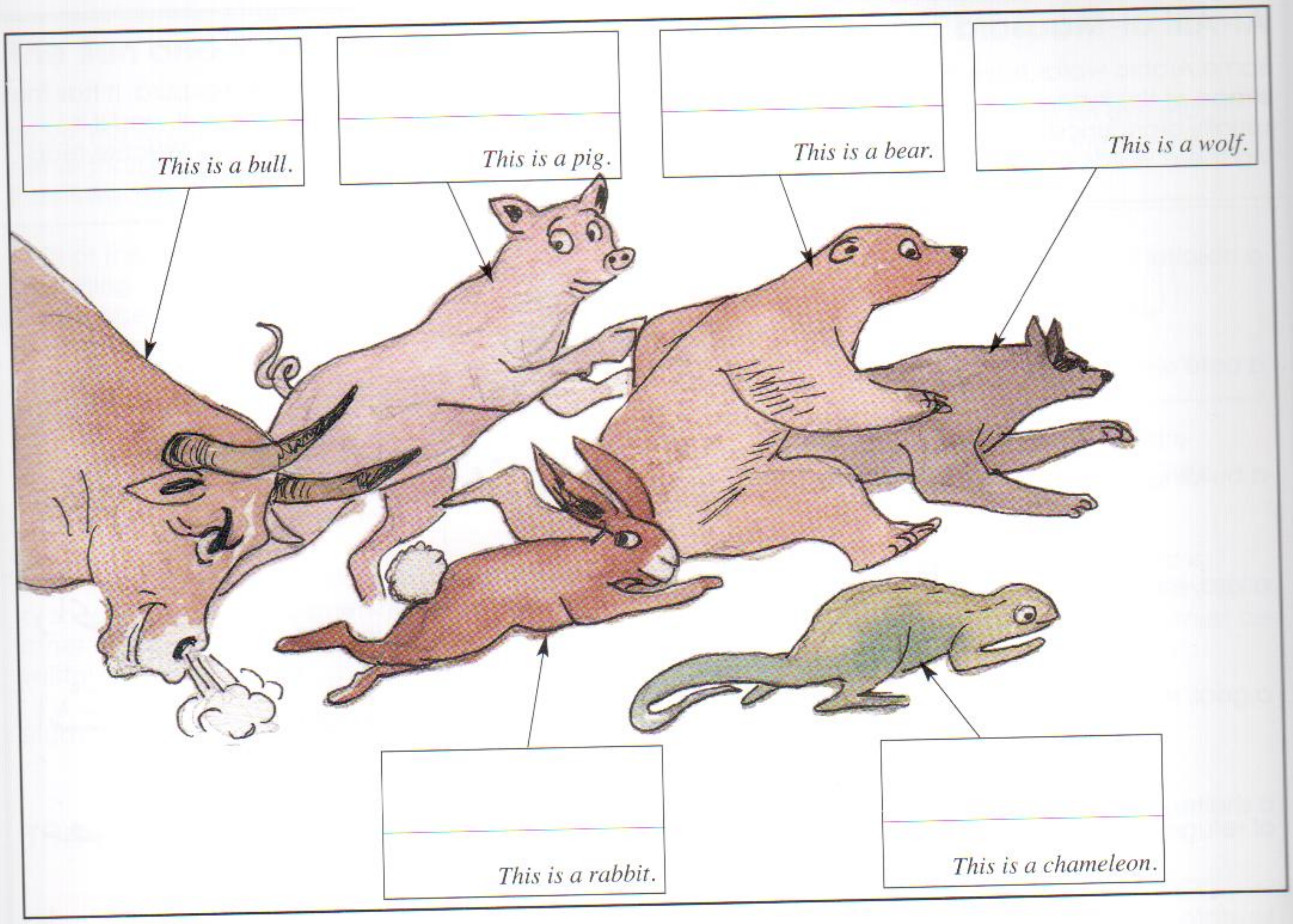
لَبْوَةٌ

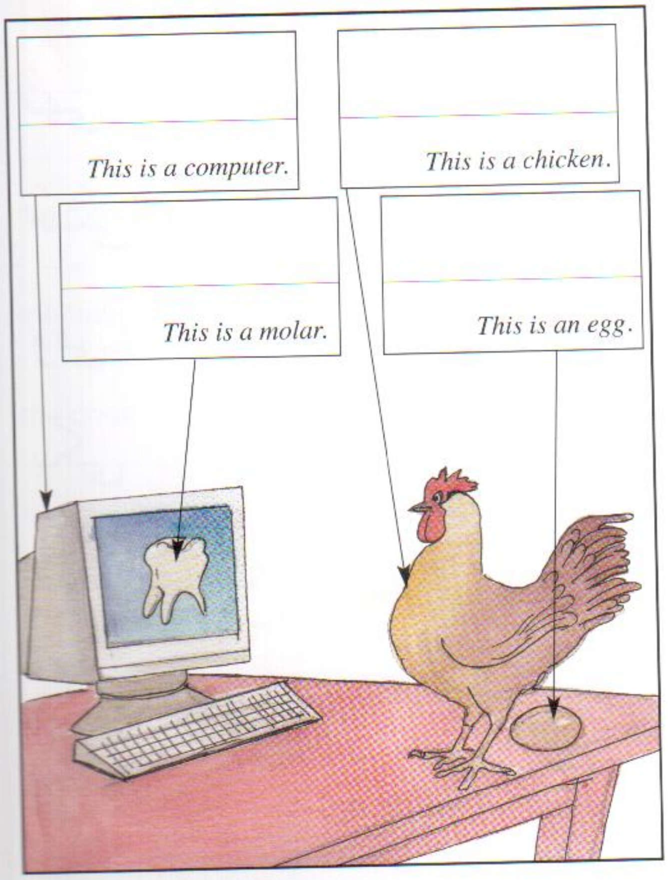
Using the vocabulary you have learned during the course of this book to help you, label the arrowed items in the following pictures, beginning each label with the correct form of 'This is'. Two items have been done for you by way of example.

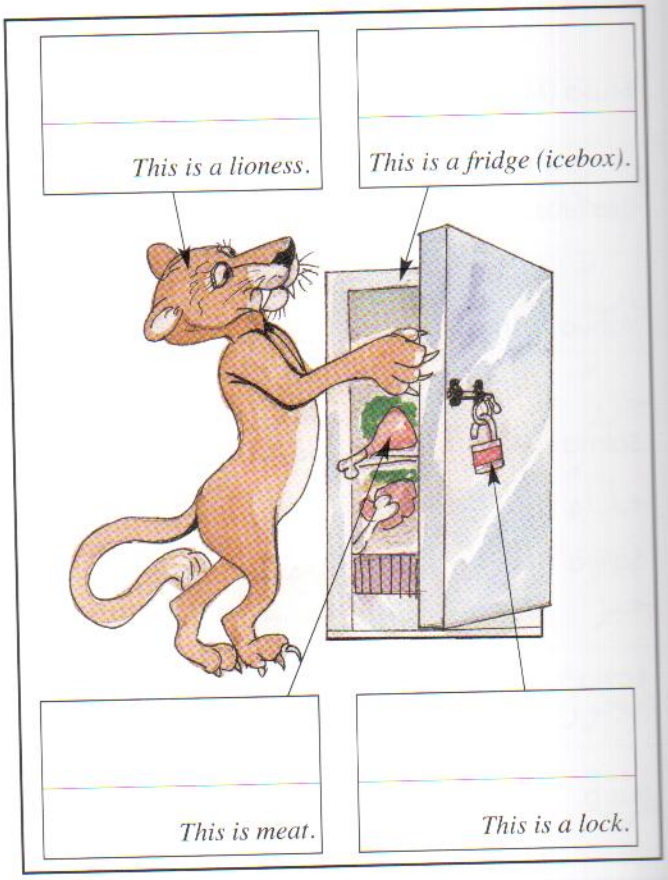







This is a bull.
This is a pig.
This is a bear.
This is a wolf.
This is a rabbit.
This is a chameleon.


This is a computer.
This is a chicken.
This is a molar.
This is an egg.


This is a lioness.
This is a fridge (icebox).
This is meat.
This is a lock.

Al-Alif al-Maqsura

Some Arabic words have a special kind of alif at the end of them, known as an alif al-maqsura. It has the shape of the letter 'yaa', but without any dots underneath it. It always has a fatha before it, and it is usually pronounced 'aa'. Below are some examples of words ending in al-alif al-maqsura. Practise reading these words, and then copy them out in your exercise book.

a hospital	مُسْتَشْفَى	he strove, endeavoured	سَعَى	he built	بَنَى
a café	مَقْهَى	he intended	نَوَى	he ran	جَرَى
a building	مَبْنَى	he came, arrived	أَتَى	he told, related, reported	حَكَى
a lord, master	مَوْلَى	he gave	أَعْطَى	he saw	رَأَى
a goal; range	مَرْمَى	it was enough, sufficient	كَفَى	he bought, purchased	اِشْتَرَى
a shelter, place of refuge	مَأْوَى	smaller, younger (feminine)	صُغْرَى	he rebelled	عَصَى
Mustafa	مُصْطَفَى	larger, older (feminine)	كُبْرَى	he spent time	قَضَى
Musa (Moses)	مُوسَى	farther, more distant; maximum	أَقْصَى	he forbade, banned	نَهَى
'Isa (Jesus)	عِيسَى	nearer; lower; minimum	أَدْنَى	he walked	مَشَى
Yahya (John)	يَحْيَى	higher	أَعْلَى	he fulfilled (a promise)	وَفَى
Salma	سَلْمَى	higher, superior	أَرْقَى	he cried	بَكَى
Salwa	سَلْوَى	stronger	أَقْوَى	he gave someone a drink	سَقَى
Layla	لَيْلَى	a patient	مَرْضَى	he told, related	رَوَى
Yusra	يُسْرَى	pasture, grazing	مَرْعَى	he refused	أَبَى

The Sun and Moon Letters

So far, the words you have been reading in this book have been indefinite (e.g. **a** book, **an** eye etc., rather than **the** book, **the** eye). Tanween is used on the last letter of a word to show that the word is indefinite. e.g. kitaab**un** – **a** book.

One of the ways of making an Arabic word definite is to attach the word 'al' (meaning 'the') before it. The alif in 'al' is a weak alif, meaning that it can only be pronounced if it is at the beginning of a sentence, (that is to say, when no other letter comes before it). When a word is defined, it can no longer take tanween. Instead, the last letter of the word takes a single vowel (i.e. a fatḥa, kasra or ḍamma). e.g. al-kitaab**u** – **the** book.

اَلْ
'the'

The Arabic alphabet, as you may already have realised, has twenty-eight letters. These letters are divided into two equal groups. One group is known as the 'moon letters', and the other as the 'sun letters'.

When the laam in 'al' is followed by one of the moon letters, it automatically takes a sukoon and is pronounced. However, when the laam of 'al' is followed by one of the sun letters, it becomes silent (in other words, it isn't pronounced). When a sun letter comes immediately after the 'al', a shadda must be written on the sun letter.

Study the examples below, and practise reading them aloud:

The Fourteen Moon Letters

ا ب ج ح خ ع غ ف ق ك م هـ و ي

the mouth	اَلْفَمُ	a mouth	فَمٌ	the sofa	اَلْأَرِيكَةُ	a sofa	أَرِيكَةٌ
the train	اَلْقِطَارُ	a train	قِطَارٌ	the door	اَلْبَابُ	a door	بَابٌ
the chair	اَلْكُرْسِيُّ	a chair	كُرْسِيٌّ	the carrot	اَلْجَزَرُ	a carrot	جَزَرٌ
the teacher	اَلْمُعَلِّمُ	a teacher	مُعَلِّمٌ	the shoe	اَلْحِذَاءُ	a shoe	حِذَاءٌ
the telephone	اَلْهَاتِفُ	a telephone	هَاتِفٌ	the bread	اَلْخُبْزُ	bread	خُبْزٌ
the boy	اَلْوَلَدُ	a boy	وَلَدٌ	the old man	اَلْعَجُوزُ	an old man	عَجُوزٌ
the hand	اَلْيَدُ	a hand	يَدٌ	the room	اَلْغُرْفَةُ	a room	غُرْفَةٌ

Moon letter reading practice

When 'al' (the) is preceded by a word ending in a vowel, the alif becomes silent and the preceding vowel sound is 'slid' together with the laam of the 'al', so it sounds as if there is no space or pause between the words. Therefore, in the first example below, the sentence would read as follows: "Laa tajlis **'alal**-arḍi." Note that the 'a' sound of the alif al-maqsura is shortened, so that it sounds like a fatḥa. Similarly, in sentence 14 below, the 'ee' sound of 'fee' is shortened as it is slid together with the following word, thus: "Laa taḍa**'il**-yada **fil**-jaybi". It is therefore necessary to look ahead when reading Arabic to see if the sound at the end of one word needs to be slid together with the next word.

Practise reading the sentences below out loud, paying close attention to sliding the sounds together where necessary.

1. Don't sit on the ground.	لَا تَجْلِسْ عَلَى الْأَرْضِ.
2. Ducks like [the] water.	يُحِبُّ الْبَطُّ الْمَاءَ.
3. I like [the] carrots.	أُحِبُّ الْجَزَرَ.
4. This [the] shoe is new.	هَذَا الْحِذَاءُ جَدِيدٌ.
5. This [the] bread is delicious.	هَذَا الْخُبْزُ لَذِيذٌ.
6. I like helping the old man.	أُحِبُّ مُسَاعَدَةَ الْعَجُوزِ.
7. This [the] room is wide.	هَذِهِ الْغُرْفَةُ وَاسِعَةٌ.
8. Don't put the pen in the mouth.	لَا تَضَعِ الْقَلَمَ فِي الْفَمِ.
9. This [the] train is fast.	هَذَا الْقِطَارُ سَرِيعٌ.
10. This [the] chair is broken.	هَذَا الْكُرْسِيُّ مَكْسُورٌ.
11. This [the] teacher is excellent.	هَذَا الْمُعَلِّمُ مُمْتَازٌ.
12. This [the] telephone is out of order.	هَذَا الْهَاتِفُ مُعَطَّلٌ.
13. This [the] boy is polite.	هَذَا الْوَلَدُ مُؤَدَّبٌ.
14. Don't put the hand in the pocket.	لَا تَضَعِ الْيَدَ فِي الْجَيْبِ.

The Fourteen Sun Letters

When the laam in 'al' is followed by one of the sun letters, it becomes silent (not pronounced), and a shadda is written on the sun letter, making the sound of the sun letter more intense. So, for example, 'taajun' (a crown), becomes '**att**aaju' (the crown).

Study the examples below, and practise reading them aloud:

ت ث د ذ ر ز س ش ص ض ط ظ ن ل

the tree	اَلشَّجَرَةُ	a tree	شَجَرَةٌ	the crown	اَلتَّاجُ	a crown	تَاجٌ
the whistle	اَلصَّفَّارَةُ	a whistle	صَفَّارَةٌ	the refrigerator	اَلثَّلاَّجَةُ	a refrigerator	ثَلاَّجَةٌ
the molar tooth	اَلضِّرْسُ	a molar tooth	ضِرْسٌ	the bear	اَلدُّبُّ	a bear	دُبٌّ
the doctor (f.)	اَلطَّبِيبَةُ	a doctor (f.)	طَبِيبَةٌ	the wolf	اَلذِّئْبُ	a wolf	ذِئْبٌ
the envelope	اَلظَّرْفُ	an envelope	ظَرْفٌ	the wrist	اَلرُّسْغُ	a wrist	رُسْغٌ
the ostrich	اَلنَّعَامَةُ	an ostrich	نَعَامَةٌ	the flower	اَلزَّهْرَةُ	a flower	زَهْرَةٌ
the painting	اَللَّوْحَةُ	a painting	لَوْحَةٌ	the bed	اَلسَّرِيرُ	a bed	سَرِيرٌ

As with the moon letter sentences, the last vowel sound on any word before a word beginning with 'al' is 'slid' together with the sun letter. So the first sentence below would read: "Yalbasul-malik**ut-taaj****adh-dh**ahabiyya." Practise reading the following sentences out loud.

1. The king is wearing the golden crown. يَلْبَسُ الْمَلِكُ التَّاجَ الذَّهَبِيَّ .

2. I put the ice in the refrigerator. وَضَعْتُ الثَّلْجَ فِي الثَّلاَّجَةِ .

3. I like the black bear. أُحِبُّ الدُّبَّ الْأَسْوَدَ .

4. The wolf ate the rabbit. أَكَلَ الذِّئْبُ الْأَرْنَبَ .

5. This [the] wrist is broken. هَذَا الرُّسْغُ مَكْسُورٌ .

6. This [the] flower is beautiful. هَذِهِ الزَّهْرَةُ جَمِيلَةٌ .

7. This [the] bed is comfortable. هَذَا السَّرِيرُ مُرِيحٌ .

8. This [the] tree is old. — هَذِهِ الشَّجَرَةُ قَدِيمَةٌ.

9. The yellow whistle is blocked. — اَلصَّفَّارَةُ الصَّفْرَاءُ مَسْدُودَةٌ.

10. This [the] molar tooth is rotten. — هَذَا الضِّرْسُ مُسَوَّسٌ.

11. That [the] doctor (f.) is skilful. — تِلْكَ الطَّبِيبَةُ مَاهِرَةٌ.

12. This [the] envelope is open. — هَذَا الظَّرْفُ مَفْتُوحٌ.

13. The ostrich is faster than the human. — اَلنَّعَامَةُ أَسْرَعُ مِنَ الْإِنْسَانِ.

14. This [the] painting is beautiful. — هَذِهِ اللَّوْحَةُ جَمِيلَةٌ.

Further reading practice with sun and moon letters

1. يَجْلِسُ هَذَا الْوَلَدُ عَلَى الطَّاوِلَةِ.



This boy is sitting on the table.

2. تَفْتَحُ هَذِهِ الْبِنْتُ النَّافِذَةَ.



This girl is opening the window.

3. يَقْرَأُ هَذَا الرَّجُلُ الْجَرِيدَةَ.



This man is reading the newspaper.

4. تَطْبَعُ هَذِهِ الْمَرْأَةُ عَلَى الْحَاسُوبِ.



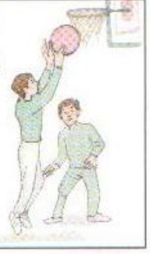
This woman is typing on the computer.

5. تَرْكَبُ هَذِهِ الْبِنْتُ الدَّرَّاجَةَ.



This girl is riding the bicycle.

6. يَلْعَبُ هَذَا الْوَلَدُ كُرَةَ السَّلَّةِ.



This boy is playing basketball.

7. يَمْشُطُ هَذَا الْوَلَدُ الشَّعْرَ.



This boy is combing the hair.

8. تَشْرَبُ هَذِهِ الْمَرْأَةُ الْحَلِيبَ.



This woman is drinking the milk.

Dialogue 1: Who is this?



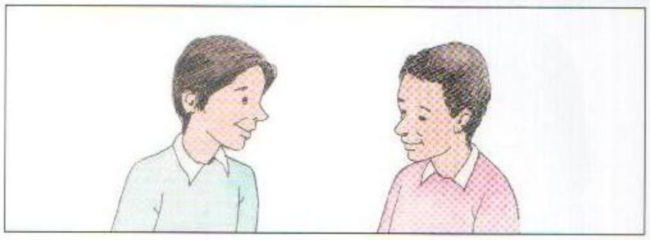
Classroom Activity

Practise introducing yourself to your friends in Arabic. Ask your friend who another person in the classroom is by saying either 'Who is this?' or 'Who is that boy/girl?' in Arabic.

Vocabulary

Arabic	English
أَنَا	I
مَنْ؟	who?
وَلَدٌ	a boy
بِنْتٌ	a girl
ذَلِكَ	that (m.)
تِلْكَ	that (f.)
هُوَ	he (is)
هِيَ	she (is)
هَذَا	this (m.)
هَذِهِ	this (f.)

Dialogue 2: What's your name?



سَمِير: اِسْمِي سَمِير. وَمَا اسْمُكَ أَنْتَ؟

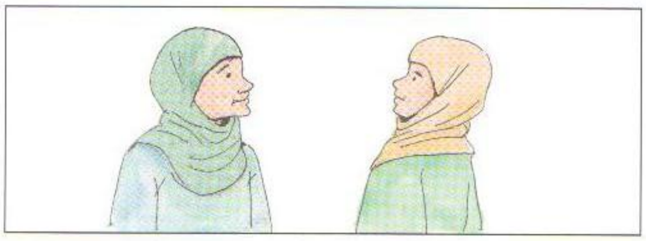
صَابِر: اِسْمِي صَابِر.

سَمِير: مَرْحَبًا بِكَ يَا صَابِر.

صَابِر: أَهْلاً بِكَ يَا سَمِير.

سَمِير: فُرْصَةٌ سَعِيدَةٌ.

صَابِر: فُرْصَةٌ سَعِيدَةٌ.



حَمِيدَة: اِسْمِي حَمِيدَة. وَمَا اسْمُكِ أَنْتِ؟

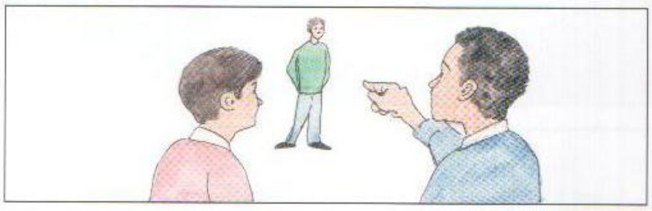
نَبِيلَة: اِسْمِي نَبِيلَة.

حَمِيدَة: مَرْحَبًا بِكِ يَا نَبِيلَة.

نَبِيلَة: أَهْلاً بِكِ يَا حَمِيدَة.

حَمِيدَة: فُرْصَةٌ سَعِيدَةٌ.

نَبِيلَة: فُرْصَةٌ سَعِيدَةٌ.

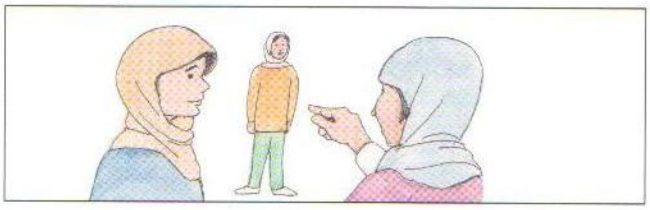


أَحْمَد: مَنْ ذَلِكَ الْوَلَدُ؟

سَمِير: هُوَ صَدِيقِي.

أَحْمَد: مَا اسْمُهُ؟

سَمِير: اِسْمُهُ صَابِر.



هُدَى: مَنْ تِلْكَ الْبِنْتُ؟

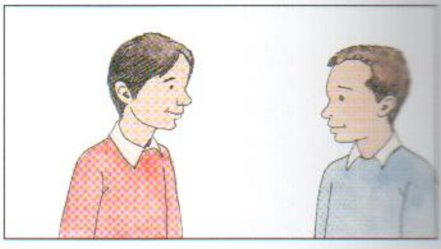
حَمِيدَة: هِيَ صَدِيقَتِي.

هُدَى: مَا اسْمُهَا؟

حَمِيدَة: اِسْمُهَا نَبِيلَة.

friend (m.)	صَدِيقٌ	O! (used to address someone)	يَا	you (m.)	أَنْتَ	my name (is)	اِسْمِي
friend (f.)	صَدِيقَةٌ	opportunity	فُرْصَةٌ	you (f.)	أَنْتِ	your (m.) name (is)	اِسْمُكَ
my friend (m.)	صَدِيقِي	happy	سَعِيدَةٌ	hello (m.)	مَرْحَبًا بِكَ	your (f.) name (is)	اِسْمُكِ
my friend (f.)	صَدِيقَتِي	When used together: 'Pleased to meet you'	فُرْصَةٌ سَعِيدَةٌ	hello (f.)	مَرْحَبًا بِكِ	his name (is)	اِسْمُهُ
				welcome (m.)	أَهْلاً بِكَ	her name (is)	اِسْمُهَا
				welcome (f.)	أَهْلاً بِكِ	what?	مَا؟

Dialogue 3: Where is your friend?

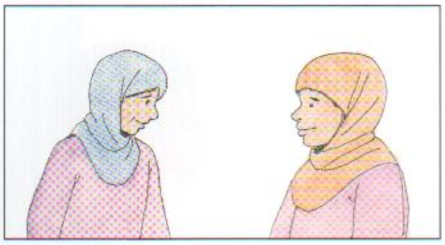


أَحْمَد: اَلسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ.

سَمِير: وَعَلَيْكُمُ السَّلَامُ.

أَحْمَد: أَيْنَ صَدِيقُكَ الْيَوْمَ؟

سَمِير: هُوَ ...



هُدَى: اَلسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ.

حَمِيدَة: وَعَلَيْكُمُ السَّلَامُ.

هُدَى: أَيْنَ صَدِيقَتُكِ الْيَوْمَ؟

حَمِيدَة: هِيَ ...

Vocabulary

اَلسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ.

Peace be upon you.

وَعَلَيْكُمُ السَّلَامُ.

(Reply): And upon you be peace.

where (is)?	أَيْنَ ؟
today	الْيَوْمَ
your friend (m.)	صَدِيقُكَ
your friend (f.)	صَدِيقَتُكِ
in	فِي

... فِي الْمَلْعَبِ.

in the playground



... فِي الْمَكْتَبَةِ.

in the library



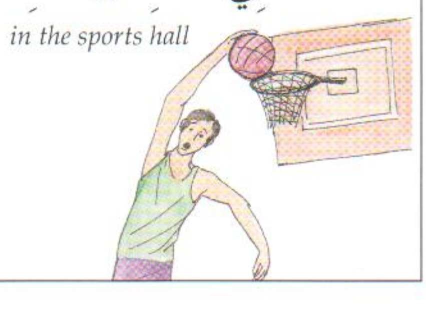
... فِي الْمِرْحَاضِ.

in the toilet



... فِي قَاعَةِ الرِّيَاضَةِ.

in the sports hall



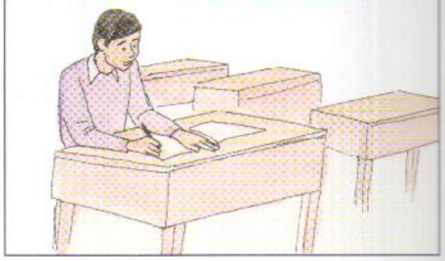
... فِي الْمَسْجِدِ.



in the mosque

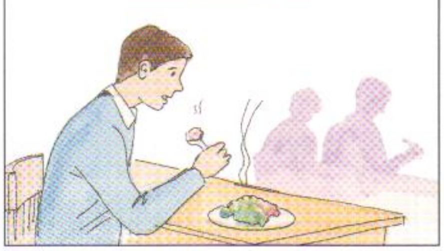
... فِي الْفَصْلِ.

in the classroom



... فِي قَاعَةِ الطَّعَامِ.

in the dining hall

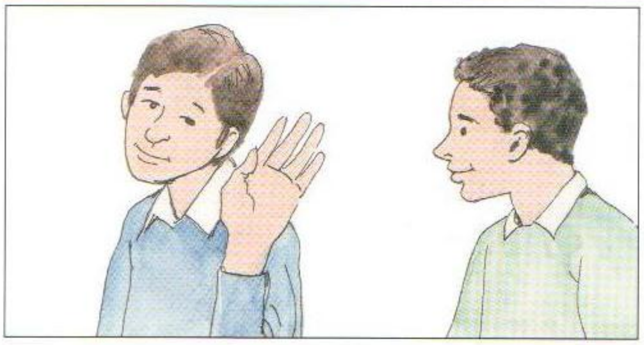


... فِي مَكْتَبِ الْمُدِيرِ.

in the headteacher's office



Dialogue 4: Goodbye



سَمِير: صَباحُ الْخَيْرِ.

صَابِر: صَبَاحُ النُّورِ.

سَمِير: كَيْفَ حالُكَ؟

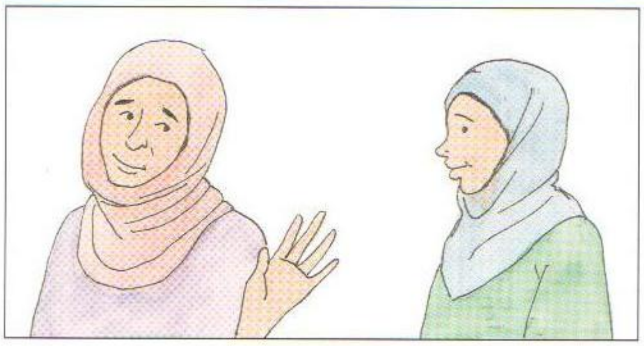
صَابِر: بِخَيْرٍ وَالْحَمْدُ لِلّٰه.

سَمِير: وَأَنْتَ كَيْفَ صِحَّتُكَ؟

صَابِر: بِخَيْرٍ وَالْحَمْدُ لِلّٰه.

سَمِير: مَعَ السَّلامَة.

صَابِر: مَعَ السَّلامَة. فِي أَمانِ اللّٰه.



فَوْزِيَّة: مَساءُ الْخَيْرِ.

لِينَا: مَساءُ النُّورِ.

فَوْزِيَّة: كَيْفَ حالُكِ؟

لِينَا: بِخَيْرٍ وَالْحَمْدُ لِلّٰه.

فَوْزِيَّة: وَأَنْتِ كَيْفَ صِحَّتُكِ؟

لِينَا: بِخَيْرٍ وَالْحَمْدُ لِلّٰه.

فَوْزِيَّة: مَعَ السَّلامَة.

لِينَا: مَعَ السَّلامَة. إِلَى اللِّقاءِ.

صَباحٌ	morning	حَمْدٌ	praise	لِقاءٌ	meet, meeting	كَيْفَ حالُكَ؟	how are you? (m.)
مَساءٌ	evening	اللّٰهُ	God, Allah	صَباحُ الْخَيْرِ	good morning	كَيْفَ حالُكِ؟	how are you? (f.)
خَيْرٌ	good, well	لِلّٰه	to God	صَباحُ النُّورِ	(reply) good morning	مَعَ السَّلامَة	goodbye
نُورٌ	light	صِحَّةٌ	health	مَساءُ الْخَيْرِ	good evening	فِي أَمانِ اللّٰه	[Go] in God's protection
كَيْفَ ؟	how?	مَعَ	with	مَساءُ النُّورِ	(reply) good evening	إِلَى اللِّقاءِ	until we meet again
حالُكَ	your condition, state (m.)	سَلامَةٌ	peace	كَيْفَ صِحَّتُكَ؟	how is your (m.) health?		
حالُكِ	your condition, state (f.)	أَمانٌ	protection	كَيْفَ صِحَّتُكِ؟	how is your (f.) health?		
بِخَيْرٍ	well, good	إِلَى	to, until	اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰه	praise be to God		